

WE CLAIM:

1. A method of downloading software components from a remote source to a software application for providing updates or additions to application or document functionality, comprising the steps of:

attaching a schema to a document defining permissible data content, data type and data structure for the document;

structuring the document to associate the document with the schema;

associating a document solution with the document structure;

assembling a plurality of software components comprising one or more document solutions at a location remote from the document;

obtaining profile information associated with a user of the document;

generating a document solution tailored to the profile information associated with the user of the document; and

downloading the tailored document solution to the application for provision of functionality provided by the tailored document solution to the document.

2. The method of Claim 1, whereby assembling the plurality of software components includes assembling the plurality of software components comprising one or more document solutions in a manifest of document solutions; and

whereby prior to obtaining profile information associated with a user of the document, calling the manifest to request the tailored document solution, and passing an identification of the user of the document to the manifest with the request for the tailored document.

3. The method of Claim 2, whereby in response to the identification of the user of the document, calling a user information database from the manifest to obtain profile information associated with the user of the document; and

whereby generating a document solution tailored to the profile information associated with the user of the document includes selecting one or more document solution components from a plurality of document solution components based on the profile information.

4. The method of Claim 3, prior to the step of downloading the software components to the application, further comprising the steps of:

determining whether the document solution associated with the document structure is present in a local library of software components; and

if the plurality of software components is not present in the local library of software components, calling the manifest for obtaining the document solution.

5. The method of Claim 4, whereby the manifest is an active server page operative to call the user information database to obtain the profile information for the user of the document and to generate the tailored document solution by selecting one or more document solution components from a plurality of document solution components based on the profile information.

6. A method of downloading software components from a remote source to a software application for providing a desired solution to a computer-generated document, comprising the steps of:

obtaining the document;

determining whether the document references a document solution;

if the document references a document solution, calling a manifest of document solutions for the document solution;

passing an identification of a user of the document to the manifest of document solutions;

at the manifest, calling a database of user information with the identification of the user for obtaining profile information for the user of the document;

obtaining profile information associated for the user of the document;

at the manifest, generating a document solution tailored to the profile information associated with the user of the document; and

downloading the tailored document solution to the application for provision of functionality provided by the tailored document solution to the document.

7. The method of Claim 6, whereby if the document does not reference a document solution, determining whether the document references a namespace associated with structure applied to the document;

if the document references a namespace, calling a manifest collection, and determining whether the manifest collection contains a document solution identification associated with the document namespace;

if the manifest collection contains a document solution identification associated with the document namespace, obtaining a location of the document solution identified by the document solution identification;

calling the location of the document solution identified by the document solution identification; and

downloading the document solution identified by the document solution identification to the document.

8. The method of Claim 7, further comprising populating the manifest collection with one or more namespace/solution pairs whereby each namespace/solution matches a document solution to a particular document namespace.

9. A method of managing a document solution downloaded by a software application for use with one or more documents, comprising:

obtaining a document at the software application;

determining whether the document contains a property identifying the document as being part of a document solution,

if the document contains a property identifying the document as being part of a document solution, parsing a solution directory for a document solution matching the property identifying the document as being part of a document solution; and

if the solution directory contains a document solution matching the property identifying the document as being part of a document solution; replacing the document solution contained in the solution directory with the document obtained at the software application.

10. A method of downloading software components from a remote source to a software application for providing a desired solution to a computer-generated document, comprising the steps of:

obtaining the document;

determining whether the document references a document namespace;

if the document references a document namespace, determining whether a manifest collection contains a document solution identification associated with the document namespace;

if the manifest collection contains a document solution identification associated with the document namespace, obtaining a location of the document solution identified by the document solution identification;

calling the location of the document solution identified by the document solution identification; and

downloading the document solution identified by the document solution identification to the document.

11. The method of Claim 10, prior to downloading the document solution identified by the document solution identification to the document, further comprising:

passing an identification of a user of the document to a manifest of document solutions identified by the document solution identification as the location of the document solution;

at the manifest, calling a database of user information with the identification of the user for obtaining profile information for the user of the document;

obtaining profile information associated for the user of the document;

at the manifest, generating a document solution tailored to the profile information associated with the user of the document; and

whereby downloading the document solution identified by the document solution identification to the document includes downloading the tailored document solution to the document for providing the functionality of the tailored document solution to the document.

12. A computer readable medium containing computer executable instructions which when executed by a computer perform a method of downloading software components from a remote source to a software application for providing updates or additions to application or document functionality, comprising the steps of:

attaching a schema to a document defining permissible data content, data type and data structure for the document;

structuring the document to associate the document with the schema;

associating a document solution with the document structure;

assembling a plurality of software components comprising one or more document solutions at a location remote from the document;

obtaining profile information associated with a user of the document;

generating a document solution tailored to the profile information associated with the user of the document; and

downloading the tailored document solution to the application for provision of functionality provided by the tailored document solution to the document.

13. The computer readable medium of Claim 12, whereby assembling the plurality of software components includes assembling the plurality of software components comprising one or more document solutions in a manifest of document solutions; and

whereby prior to obtaining profile information associated with a user of the document, calling the manifest to request the tailored document solution, and passing an identification of the user of the document to the manifest with the request for the tailored document.

14. The computer readable medium of Claim 13, whereby in response to the identification of the user of the document, calling a user information database from the manifest to obtain profile information associated with the user of the document; and

whereby generating a document solution tailored to the profile information associated with the user of the document includes selecting one or more document solution components from a plurality of document solution components based on the profile information.

15. The computer readable medium of Claim 14, prior to the step of downloading the software components to the application, further comprising the steps of:

determining whether the document solution associated with the document structure is present in a local library of software components; and

if the plurality of software components is not present in the local library of software components, calling the manifest for obtaining the document solution.

16. The computer readable medium of Claim 15, whereby the manifest is an active server page operative to call the user information database to obtain the profile information for the user of the document and to generate the tailored document solution

by selecting one or more document solution components from a plurality of document solution components based on the profile information.

17. A computer readable medium containing computer executable instructions which when executed by a computer perform a method of downloading software components from a remote source to a software application for providing a desired solution to a computer-generated document, comprising the steps of:

- obtaining the document;

- determining whether the document references a document namespace;

- if the document references a document namespace, determining whether a manifest collection contains a document solution identification associated with the document namespace;

- if the manifest collection contains a document solution identification associated with the document namespace, obtaining a location of the document solution identified by the document solution identification;

- calling the location of the document solution identified by the document solution identification; and

- downloading the document solution identified by the document solution identification to the document.

18. The computer readable medium method of Claim 17, prior to downloading the document solution identified by the document solution identification to the document, further comprising:

- passing an identification of a user of the document to a manifest of document solutions identified by the document solution identification as the location of the document solution;

- at the manifest, calling a database of user information with the identification of the user for obtaining profile information for the user of the document;

- obtaining profile information associated for the user of the document;

at the manifest, generating a document solution tailored to the profile information associated with the user of the document; and

whereby downloading the document solution identified by the document solution identification to the document includes downloading the tailored document solution to the document for providing the functionality of the tailored document solution to the document.